McMASTER UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GUIDE

#33 TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION UNIVERSITY IMPACT RANKINGS 2023
#98 ACADEMIC RANKINGS OF WORLD UNIVERSITIES (ARWU) 2023 (out of 2,500+ globally ranked universities)
#103 TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2024 (out of 1,900+ globally ranked universities)

CENTRALLY LOCATED
McMaster’s main campus, located in the Westdale neighbourhood of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, comprises 300 acres of conservation space at the western end of Lake Ontario, between Toronto and Niagara Falls.

RESEARCH-INTENSIVE
McMaster has been named one of Canada’s most research-intensive universities for the last five years.

DIVERSE STUDENT BODY
In the 2022/2023 Academic year, 17.5% of all McMaster students were international students, from 125 countries.

Hamilton, Ontario

100+ waterfalls within the city boundaries.

45 minute drive to Toronto, Niagara Falls, and the United States Border.

10th largest city in Canada with a population of 785,184.

Smokey Hollow Waterfall
Welcome to Residence!

Residence life at McMaster offers many academic and social benefits through intentional programming focused on building a sense of community. Living in residence gives students the opportunity to connect with other first-year students, gain academic and social skills, while being supported by our live-in Community Advisors and professional Residence Life staff. For more information, visit: housing.mcmaster.ca.

RESIDENCE OPTIONS

Our 13 residence buildings are located on our central campus within a five-minute walk to classes, athletic facilities, libraries and many dining options. We offer a variety of room types across two different styles of buildings – traditional and apartment/suite style. Prices range from about $6,250–$10,500 for an eight-month term.

**Apartment and Suite Style**
- A self-contained apartment or suite with kitchen or kitchenette, washroom and lounge area
- Each student has an individual bedroom within the apartment/suite
- Co-ed buildings
- Minimum of an “Apartment” meal plan required

**Traditional Style**
- Single, double and quad rooms are available in a variety of layouts with private, shared or communal washroom options.
- Shared lounge and kitchen areas
- All-female building and floors available
- Traditional meal plan required

Floor plans and room layouts may vary.

74% of students will live in double rooms with a roommate.

2023/24 Meal Plans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Traditional</th>
<th>Apartment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>$5,120</td>
<td>$3,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>$5,320</td>
<td>$3,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>$5,520</td>
<td>$3,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>$5,720</td>
<td>$3,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dining on Campus

Whether you are living in residence or off-campus, finding a place to eat at McMaster is simple and convenient. With over 18 dining locations on campus, vegetarian/vegan choices, international food menus, nutritious options as well as quick snacks are offered to accommodate diverse student needs. Most food stations provide fresh, made-to-order selections.

RESIDENCE MEAL PLANS

All students in residence must purchase a meal plan. We offer four different meal plans to suit your lifestyle and eating habits. Each plan is available in either a Traditional or Apartment option, depending on your residence building assignment. Please visit hospitality.mcmaster.ca for details on meal plan policies.

Providing a selection of international cuisines to cater to a diverse range of palates.

The meal card will act as a debit card, making food purchases simple and convenient. Swipe to purchase and the total will be deducted from the balance.

Choose from over 20 off-campus dining vendors, including Boston Pizza, Popeyes, Pita Pit, and more!
Aid & Awards

We’ve made applying for Aid & Awards simple. Using AwardSpring, you can browse, be matched with and apply to opportunities you’re eligible for, all in one place. Complete a personal profile telling us a little bit about yourself and we’ll present opportunities that may be right for you.

By-application entrance awards open in November. Please visit [registrar.mcmaster.ca/aid-awards](http://registrar.mcmaster.ca/aid-awards) for the complete list of available Aid & Awards.

**Brighter World Awards**
- **Value:** $5,000 (50 scholarships available).
- **Eligibility:** Must be a self-identified Black student applying for admission to a Level I program.

**Application-Based Entrance Award**
- 28 x $5,000 entrance award by application open to all faculties, totalling $140,000.

**International Students Work Opportunity**
- Paid positions for eligible international students.
- Opportunities include: work-study positions, research positions, co-op positions, external options and experiential learning opportunities.

For more information, visit: [studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/about-iswo](http://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/about-iswo)

**Your Investment**

2023/2024 Estimated International Student Fees*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Tuition Fees</th>
<th>Housing (Residence, single room)</th>
<th>Food (Traditional Meal Plan B)</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applied Science (BSc)</td>
<td>$53,049.90</td>
<td>$8,350</td>
<td>$5,320</td>
<td>$66,719.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts (BA)</td>
<td>$43,008.00</td>
<td>$8,350</td>
<td>$5,320</td>
<td>$56,678.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Science (BArtsSc)</td>
<td>$45,271.80</td>
<td>$8,350</td>
<td>$5,320</td>
<td>$58,941.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce (BComm)</td>
<td>$47,173.20</td>
<td>$8,350</td>
<td>$5,320</td>
<td>$60,843.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering (BEng)</td>
<td>$65,428.21</td>
<td>$8,350</td>
<td>$5,320</td>
<td>$79,098.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Science (BHSc)</td>
<td>$51,445.20</td>
<td>$8,350</td>
<td>$5,320</td>
<td>$65,155.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science (BSc)</td>
<td>$45,271.80</td>
<td>$8,350</td>
<td>$5,320</td>
<td>$58,941.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology (BTech)</td>
<td>$46,684.20</td>
<td>$8,350</td>
<td>$5,320</td>
<td>$60,354.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All fees are in Canadian Dollars (CAD).

Calculate the cost of your university experience by using our cost estimator: [future.mcmaster.ca/cost-estimator](http://future.mcmaster.ca/cost-estimator)

*The listed cut-off percentages are estimated and subject to change, pending the calculation of all final admission averages.

**Automatic Entrance Awards**

Automatic entrance awards are given to the top incoming students based on academic achievement. These awards will be open to both domestic and international applicants and will be calculated using the top six final grades in U/M courses (or equivalent), including those required for admission to the Level I program. Scholarship offers are based on your admission average at the time of your application. Offers are conditional until we receive final grades, which may change your eligibility.

Students can only be eligible for either the Award of Excellence or faculty-specific achievement awards.

For information on the automatic entrance award values, please visit: [registrar.mcmaster.ca/entrance-awards](http://registrar.mcmaster.ca/entrance-awards)

**The McMaster University Award of Excellence**

This $3,000 award is granted to students with a final admission average in the top 10% of their faculty’s incoming class.

**Faculty-Specific Achievement Awards**

These awards, ranging from $1,000–$3,000 are granted to students with a high final admission average as determined by their faculty.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Undergraduate Degree Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level I Program (OUAC Code)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ARTS &amp; SCIENCE PROGRAM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Science I (MX)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DEGROOTE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business I (MB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Business and Humanities I (MBH)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ENGINEERING</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Technology: (3 programs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automation Systems Engineering Technology (NPTI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automotive and Vehicle Engineering Technology (MAT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biotechnology (MTT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science I (MCC or MC) (Co-op and non-co-op)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering I (MEC or ME) (Co-op and non-co-op)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Biomedical Engineering and Health Sciences (IBIOMED)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Biomedical Engineering and Health Sciences I (ME or MH) (Co-op and non-co-op)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEALTH SCIENCES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Health Sciences (MNS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwifery I (MY)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing I (M) (McMaster University) (M) (M) (M) M (MHawk College)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Undergraduate Degree Programs (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Program (OUAC Code)</th>
<th>Upper-Year Majors</th>
<th>Required Courses*</th>
<th>Anticipated Admissions Range**</th>
<th>Target Enrol.</th>
<th>Notes and Additional Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| HUMANITIES | Humanities I (MH) | • Cognitive Science of Language  
• Communication Studies  
• English & Cultural Studies  
• French  
• Global Peace & Social Justice  
• Greek & Roman Studies  
• History  
• (Arts Integrated Arts)  
• Justice, Political Philosophy & Law  
• Linguistics  
• Media Arts  
• Philosophy | • English | • High-70s  
• IB: 29 | 480 | |
|         | Music (MM) | • English | • Min 78% required for consideration  
• IB: 29 | 20 | • Music auditions take place between February and March 2024 |
|         | iArts (Integrated Arts) (MHII) | • English | • Min 78% required for consideration  
• IB: 29 | 40 | • Electronic creative submissions deadline: February 1, 2024 |
| SCIENCE | Chemical and Physical Sciences (MPS) | • Actuarial and Financial Mathematics  
• Astrophysics  
• Biodiversity and Environmental Sciences  
• Biology Core  
• Biology Research Specialization  
• Physiology  
• Physiology Research Specialization  
• Biology and Mathematics  
• Biology and Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour  
• Chemical and Physical Sciences  
• Chemical Biology  
• Chemistry  
• Environmental and Earth Sciences  
• Environmental Sciences  
• Human Behaviour  
• Autism & Behavioural Science Specialization  
• Early Childhood Education Specialization  
• Life Sciences  
• Origins of Disease Specialization  
• Sensory Motor Systems Specialization | • English  
• Chemistry  
• Mathematics (must include Pre-Calculus and Calculus)  
• Physics | • Mid- to high-80s  
• IB: 33–35 | 100 | |
|         | Environmental and Earth Sciences (MEE) | • English  
• Mathematics (one of Pre-Calculus or Calculus)  
• One of: Biology, Chemistry  
• One of: Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Biology, Chemistry, Physics | • Mid- to high-80s  
• IB: 33–35 | 85 | |
|         | Life Sciences (MLS) | • English  
• Mathematics (one of Pre-Calculus or Calculus)  
• Biology  
• One of: Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Chemistry, Physics | • High-80s to low-90s  
• IB: 34–37 | 1,000 | |
|         | Mathematics and Statistics (MZ) | • English  
• Mathematics (must include Pre-Calculus and Calculus) | • Mid- to high-80s  
• IB: 33–35 | 300 | |
|         | Honours Integrated Science (MIS) | • English  
• Mathematics (must include Pre-Calculus and Calculus)  
• Two of: Biology, Chemistry, Physics | • Min. of high-80s required for consideration  
• IB: 33–35 | 60 | • Application deadline: January 15, 2024  
• Mandatory supplementary application deadline: February 1, 2024  
• Details: science.mcmaster.ca/isci |
|         | Kinesiology (MV) | • English  
• Mathematics (must include Calculus)  
• Biology | • High-80s to low-90s  
• IB: 34–37 | 250 | |
English Language Proficiency Requirements

The chart below lists English Language Proficiency tests accepted by McMaster, along with their respective minimum score requirements. Typically, the English language proficiency test result must be written within two years of starting at McMaster.

You will be required to submit an English Language Test if you have not:
• Resided in an English-speaking country for at least four years immediately prior to September 2024; OR
• Attended an English-medium educational institution in a full-time academic (non-ESL) program for at least four years immediately prior to September 2024. Official documentation from the school is required for this exemption. The admission committee reserves the right to require an English Language Proficiency Test at its discretion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English Language Test</th>
<th>Requirements for entry to level I</th>
<th>MELD requirements</th>
<th>STEP requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Duolingo</td>
<td>• Minimum overall score of 120</td>
<td>• MELD Minimum 75–114</td>
<td>STEP Minimum 115–119</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| International English Language Testing Systems (IELTS) | • Minimum overall score of 6.5  
  • Minimum score of 6 in each of the four components: reading, writing, speaking, and listening | • MELD minimum: 5.0 | • STEP overall score of 6.5  
  • STEP minimum score of 6 in reading and writing, and minimum score of 5.5 in speaking and listening |
| Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) | • Minimum overall score of 86  
  • Minimum score of 20 in each of the four components: reading, writing, speaking, and listening | • MELD minimum: 70 | • STEP overall score of 86  
  • STEP minimum score of 20 in reading & writing, minimum score of 16 in speaking, and minimum score of 11 in listening |

For a complete list of acceptable tests and their respective minimum scores, please visit: future.mcmaster.ca/english-proficiency/
## Common International Curricula

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Curriculum</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Course Equivalences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **American Style**  | • Five Grade 12 / Senior academic subjects or a combination of equivalents from IB or AP will be used to calculate an admission average.  
  • Grade 12 English / English Literature required for all programs.  
  • AP Challenge exam with a minimum score of 4 or 5 may be used in lieu of one science/math requirement.  
  • Applicants are not required to take either SAT or ACT but may submit if it strengthens their application.  
  • Upon request, students presenting AP courses to fulfill program requirements (or requisites) may be required to present official AP Examinations results with minimum results of ‘3’ via the College Board to finalize their admission.  
  • Please visit our website to learn more about which courses will satisfy our math and science requirements: [future.mcmaster.ca/admission/process/curriculum-requirements](future.mcmaster.ca/admission/process/curriculum-requirements) | • Four years of high school Mathematics including Pre-Calculus and AP Calculus (either AB or BC exam) or equivalent = Calculus  
  • AP Stats or Gr. 12 Stats = Statistics  
  • Pre-Calculus = Pre-Calc |
| **British Patterned (GCE, IGCSE, GCSE)** | • Five academic subjects, including three distinct GCE Advanced Level/A2/International ‘A’ Level subjects and two distinct GCSE/IGCSE/ ‘O’ level subjects, will be used to calculate an admission average.  
  • English/English as a Second Language accepted for English requirement except for Humanities. Humanities requires ordinary (O-level) English or Advanced level (A2) English.  
  • All math required courses must be presented at the A2 level. Please refer to our website for program specific requirements: [future.mcmaster.ca/apply/requirements](future.mcmaster.ca/apply/requirements) | • A Level Math = Pre-Calc & Calculus  
  • A Level Further Math = Pre-Calc, Calculus & Statistics |
| **French Baccalaureate** | • Six academic subjects will be used to calculate an admission average  
  • Applicants will be considered for admission on their ‘Bulletins’ (with results on 20) for Première and the first trimester of Terminale or, if already completed, on their final ‘Bac’ results | • Mathématiques (Première) = Pre-Calc & Statistics  
  • Mathématiques Complémentaires (Terminale) = Pre-Calc  
  • Spécialité Mathématiques (Terminale) = Calculus & Statistics  
  • Sciences de la Vie de la Terre (SVT) (Première) = Biology  
  • Physique-Chimie (Terminale) = Chemistry  
  • Physique-Chimie (Première + Terminale) = Physics |
| **CBSE/CISCE** | • Predicted grades in five Class XII academic subjects will be used to calculate an admission average | Class XII  
  • Mathematics = Pre-Calc & Calculus  
  **Note:** Applied Math is not acceptable. |
| **Chinese National Curriculum** | • Five Senior 3 high school academic subjects will be used to calculate an admission average  
  • Hukao/Academic Profiency Test results must be submitted with the exception for applicants in provinces where Hukao/APT is not offered or for applicants without permanent residence/household registration  
  • Confirmation of writing the Gaokao. If an applicant is not writing the Gaokao, they must submit a formal explanation. Confirmation of participation in either SAT or ACT may be requested. | Senior 3  
  • Mathematics = Pre-Calc & Calculus |
| **International Baccalaureate (IB)** | IB Diploma Program  
  • Six academic subjects – three at HL and three at SL, plus the TOK and EE  
  • Bonus points – TOK and EE are added to the total score for admission consideration  
  IB Certificate Courses  
  • Applicants applying with IB certificate courses (either HL or SL) may be considered for admission, provided they will complete a high school diploma from a recognized curriculum | SL Analysis & Approaches = Pre-Calc & Calculus  
  • SL Applications & Interpretations = Pre-Calc & Statistics  
  • HL Analysis & Approaches = Pre-Calc, Calculus & Statistics  
  • HL Applications & Interpretations = Pre-Calc, Calculus & Statistics |
| **CAPE** | • Four subjects, three of which must be at CAPE Unit 2  
  • English – will accept the best of the following: CSEC/CXC or CAPE (Caribbean Studies/Communication Studies)  
  • No individual grades lower than III will be accepted and most programs require grades of I and II as minimums.  
  • All science required courses must be presented at CAPE Unit 2. | Unit 1 & 2 Pure Math = Pre-Calc & Calculus  
  • Unit 1 Pure Math = Pre-Calc  
  • Unit 1 & 2 Applied Math = Statistics  
  **Note:** Integrated Mathematics is not acceptable. |
| **Other International Curricula** | • If you are completing WAEC examinations or Maple Leaf World School curriculum, please visit: [future.mcmaster.ca/admission/process/curriculum-requirements](future.mcmaster.ca/admission/process/curriculum-requirements)  
  • If you are completing any other curriculum, please visit: [future.mcmaster.ca/admission](future.mcmaster.ca/admission) |  |
How to Apply | UNDERGRAD

STEP 1: Refer to the Admissions Requirements chart to learn about prerequisites and any mandatory deadlines. Submit an Undergraduate Application on the Ontario Universities’ Application Centre (OUAC).

STEP 2: Once your OUAC application and fees have been submitted, you will receive an application acknowledgement email in 2–3 business days with details on how to set up your MacID and access your application portal.

STEP 3: Familiarize yourself with the application portal and review your application checklist. If we need supporting document(s), it will be listed here.

Which Applicant Portal Is for You?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Ontario High School Students</th>
<th>High School Students Outside of Ontario</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eligibility</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students currently studying the Ontario-based high school curriculum (going to obtain an OSSD by June 2024).</td>
<td>All other applicants:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Applicant Portal</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mosaic.mcmaster.ca</td>
<td>admissions.mcmaster.ca</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Admission policies, and deadlines, are as of July 2023 and subject to change without notice. All programs have enrolment limits and may become full prior to published deadlines. The University reserves the right not to accept, process or adjudicate applications, or amendments to applications, at any time.

Connect with us

Explore McMaster your way with our virtual tour. To register, visit future.mcmaster.ca/visit

Want to learn more, or speak with a Recruitment Officer? Contact us through email at: international@mcmaster.ca

McMaster University

That’s right; we’re on Discord! Join the community server today to connect with fellow applicants and ask us questions!